

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07

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FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4844 PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L ABU DHABI 2323

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MASS, TC

SUBJECT: LOA/DELIVERY SCHEDULE FOR LOAD BEARING EQUIPMENT

REF: (A) STATE 209055, (B) ABU DHABI 2144, (C) ABU DHABI 2271

1. HAVING FIRST RAISED QUESTION OF LOA SIGNATURE AND PAYMENT WITH COL. AL BADIE BY PHONE AUGUST 25, CHARGE FOLLOWED UP WITH GEN. KHALDI DURING MEETING AUGUST 26. IN REFRESHINGLY EFFICIENT MANNER OF UAEDF UNDER KHALDI, DECISION HAD BEEN REACHED AS FOLLOWS:

(A) UAE AMB. SAEED GHOBASH HAS BEEN AUTHORIZED TO SIGN LOA ON BEHALF OF UAEG IN WASHINGTON. AMB. GHOBASH CURRENTLY ENROUTE BACK TO US AFTER BRIEF VISIT HERE. HE SHOULD BE CONTACTED RE NEXT STEPS.

(B) RE DELIVERY OF CHECK, HOWEVER, GEN. KHALDI STATES THAT ADMINISTRATIVELY THIS MUCH EASIER FOR UAEG TO ACCOMPLISH HERE WITH EMBASSY. WOULD IT NOT BE POSSIBLE TO KEEP UP PACE OF DELIVERY SCHEDULE ON BASIS OF EMBASSY CABLE TO EFFECT THAT CHECK RECEIVED AND TO BE FORTHCOMING IN NEXT POUCH? IF THIS ARRANGEMENT IS ACCEPTABLE, PLEASE GIVE ALL PERTINENT DETAILS AS TO HOW PAY EM SHOULD BE PREPARED--I.E. MADE OUT TO WHAT ENTITY, IN EXACTLY WHAT AMOUNT (SEE MORE BELOW RE TRANSPORT), ETC.

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(C) RE TRANSPORTATION OF WEBBING--COST FIGURES HAVE

STRUCK HOME. UAE DF HAS RECONSIDERED AND WOULD LIKE AGAIN RAISE POSSIBILITY USING ONE OF ITS C-130'S TO PICK UP EQUIPMENT. IF THIS ACCEPTABLE, THEN INFORMATION NEEDED ON WEIGHT AND CUBE OF LOAD BEARING EQUIPMENT. UAE DF ASSUMES THAT MINIMAL PACKING WILL BE REQUIRED SINCE COMMERCIAL TRANSPORT NOT INVOLVED-- I.E. PACKING COST AS WELL AS TRANSPORTATION WOULD BE REDUCED TO MINIMUM. POINT OF PICKUP CLEARLY ALSO REQUIRED.

(D) RE DELIVERY DATE--GEN. KHALDI CAME DOWN STRONGLY (AS WE ANTICIPATED REFS B AND C) ON DATE EARLIER THAN NOVEMBER 15. HE SAID WITH ARRIVAL THAT LATE IT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE MAKE DISTRIBUTION TO TROOPS PRIOR DECEMBER 2 NATIONAL DAY. GEN. KHALDI ASKED THAT PICKUP BE AT MINIMUM NOVEMBER 1 AND IF POSSIBLE SOMETIME OCTOBER. EARLY NOTIFICATION OF TIMING ALL MORE IMPORTANT IN VIEW OF ANTICIPATED USE OF C-130'S -- I.E., UAE DF AIR FORCE NEEDS TIME TO PLAN FOR TRIP AND WOULD LIKE AT LEAST TENTATIVE DATE ASAP.

(E) AS POINT OF INTEREST, WILL DESERT CAMOUFLAGE COVER FOR PACK BE INCLUDED?

2. WHILE WE REALIZE IT MAY NOT BE POSSIBLE TO GIVE FULL RESPONSE SO QUICKLY, IT WOULD BE USEFUL IF WE COULD PROVIDE GEN. KHALDI WITH AT LEAST SOME ANSWERS DURING COURSE MEETINGS PLANNED THIS SATURDAY/SUNDAY ON M16 QUESTION (SEE SEPTTEL).
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